

Rural Hospital Performance Improvement (RHPI) Project

Mississippi Delta Region

The Rural Hospital Performance Improvement (RHPI) Project is funded by the Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP), HRSA, DHHS. The Mountain States Group of Boise, Idaho, partnering with the National Rural Health Resource Center of Duluth, Minnesota, administers this contract.

Eight states are in the Delta Region, which covers portions of

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Illinois
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Tennessee

The hospitals eligible for this project are located in designated rural counties and have 50 or fewer beds. There are over 100 eligible hospitals.

The RHPI Project focuses on strengthening rural hospitals because they are an important safety net provider and economic engine in their communities . It brings needed technical expertise, information, and business tools to these hospitals. The project is closely coordinated with state health organizations, including state hospital associations and state offices of rural health.

RHPI goals include:

1. Provide on-site assistance to eligible hospitals in the eight state Mississippi River Delta Region to help them improve their financial, quality and operational performance;
2. Develop and disseminate business tools and information that rural hospitals across the country can use to improve their performance; and
3. Work to build state and regional capacity to provide technical assistance and needed support to rural hospitals.

The guiding principles for this project include coordination with other rural hospital-related programs and activities in the region; assessing the approach to consultation with careful consideration of needs and circumstances; and utilize the principles of continuous quality improvement throughout the project.

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